

under the provisions of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act, as amended, shall not be subject to the restrictions or limitations of this section upon loans secured by real estate.”

Approved May 25, 1948.

[CHAPTER 335]

AN ACT

To promote the national defense by increasing the membership of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the eighth paragraph following the caption “Pay, miscellaneous” in the Act entitled “An Act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, and for other purposes”, approved March 3, 1915 (38 Stat. 930; U. S. C., title 49, sec. 241), as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS

“(a) There is hereby established a National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Committee’) to be composed of not more than seventeen members appointed by the President. Members shall serve as such without compensation, and shall include two representatives of the Department of the Air Force; two representatives of the Department of the Navy, from the office in charge of naval aeronautics; two representatives of the Civil Aeronautics Authority; one representative of the Smithsonian Institution; one representative of the United States Weather Bureau; one representative of the National Bureau of Standards; the chairman of the Research and Development Board of the National Military Establishment; and not more than seven other members selected from persons acquainted with the needs of aeronautical science, either civil or military, or skilled in aeronautical engineering or its allied sciences. Unless otherwise provided by law, each member not representing a government department or agency shall be appointed for a term of five years from the date of the expiration of the term of the member whom he succeeds, except that any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term of the member whom he succeeds.

“(b) Under such rules and regulations as shall be formulated by the Committee, with the approval of the President, for the conduct of its work, it shall be the duty of the Committee (1) to supervise and direct the scientific study of the problems of flight with a view to their practical solution, (2) to determine the problems which should be experimentally attacked, and to discuss their solution and their application to practical questions, and (3) to direct and conduct research and experiment in aeronautics in the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory, the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory, the Flight Propulsion Research Laboratory, and in such other laboratory or laboratories as may, in whole or in part, be placed under the direction of the Committee.

“(c) An annual report to the Congress shall be submitted by the Committee through the President, including an itemized statement of expenditures.”

SEC. 2. Each member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics not representing a government department or agency who may be appointed initially to fill any vacancy created by the increase in the membership of the Committee authorized by the amendment

May 25, 1948  
[S. 1571]  
[Public Law 549]

National Advisory  
Committee for Aero-  
nautics.

50 U. S. C. § 151.

Membership.

Term of office.

Duties.

Report to Congress.

Appointment to fill  
vacancy.

made by the first section of this Act shall serve under such appointment for a term expiring December 1, 1950.

SEC. 3. The following parts of Acts are hereby repealed:

Repeals.

(a) That portion of the ninth paragraph following the caption "Pay, miscellaneous", in the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, and for other purposes", approved March 3, 1915 (38 Stat. 930; U. S. C., title 49, sec. 243), which reads as follows: " : *Provided*, That an annual report to the Congress shall be submitted through the President, including an itemized statement of expenditures".

50 U. S. C. § 153.

(b) That portion of the paragraph following the caption "National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics", in the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and nineteen, and for other purposes", approved July 1, 1918 (40 Stat. 650; U. S. C., title 49, sec. 242), which reads as follows: " : *Provided*, That the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to furnish office space to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics in governmental buildings occupied by the Signal Corps".

50 U. S. C. § 152.

(c) That portion of the first paragraph following the caption "National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics", in the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, and for other purposes", approved April 22, 1926 (44 Stat. 314; U. S. C., title 49, sec. 244), which reads as follows: " , hereafter to be known as the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory".

50 U. S. C. § 155.

Approved May 25, 1948.

## [CHAPTER 336]

### AN ACT

To amend the General Bridge Act of 1946.

May 25, 1948  
[S. 1651]  
[Public Law 550]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the General Bridge Act of 1946 be, and the same is hereby, amended by striking out section 506 thereof and by inserting in lieu of said section a new section to be designated as section 506 and to read as follows:

60 Stat. 848.  
33 U. S. C. § 520.

"SEC. 506. If tolls are charged for the use of an interstate bridge constructed or taken over or acquired by a State or States or by any municipality or other political subdivision or public agency thereof, under the provisions of this title, the rates of toll shall be so adjusted as to provide a fund sufficient to pay for the reasonable cost of maintaining, repairing, and operating the bridge and its approaches under economical management, and to provide a sinking fund sufficient to amortize the amount paid therefor, including reasonable interest and financing cost, as soon as possible under reasonable charges, but within a period of not to exceed thirty years from the date of completing or acquiring the same. After a sinking fund sufficient for such amortization shall have been so provided, such bridge shall thereafter be maintained and operated free of tolls. An accurate record of the amount paid for acquiring the bridge and its approaches, the actual expenditures for maintaining, repairing, and operating the same, and of the daily tolls collected, shall be kept and shall be available for the information of all persons interested."

Sinking fund.

Approved May 25, 1948.